

IPR & Innovation

WTO forced TRIPs on developing countries, [Deccan Chronicle](#)

Trade-related intellectual property rights (TRIPs) was forced upon developing countries by the World Trade Organization (WTO) regime by undermining their flexibility in developing appropriate industrial and health policies, said Dr. Reji Joseph, an expert on Intellectual Property Rights, and a Faculty member of the School of International Studies at Central University of Gujarat. Mr Reji was delivering a special lecture on “TRIPs and Public Health: Challenges for India” at the School of International Relations and Politics (SIRP), at Mahatma Gandhi University on Monday. Dr Reji said that the implications of the new IPR policy were evident in the health and pharmaceutical sector. The new patent regime has not only caused a spurt in the prices of medicines but it has also led to the increasing Out of the Pocket Expenditure (OPE) in health. The number of people pushed into poverty on account of OPE in health due to this has increased considerably.

Medical & Regulatory

A Prescription That Clicks, [The Indian Express](#)

The Maharashtra Food and Drug Administration (FDA) cracked down on e-commerce company Snapdeal last month for allowing vendors to sell drugs without a doctor's prescription on its online marketplace. That the episode made headlines probably had less to do with the illegal act itself and more to do with the involvement of a high-profile company. For, Indian pharmacies have long been known to sell drugs without prescription. Over the decades, studies have concluded that India has an unacceptably high rate of self-medication by patients. The main reason is that seeking professional healthcare can be time consuming and expensive. Chemist shops operating in a lax regulatory environment have fuelled the trend. An analysis by the Global Antibiotic Resistance Partnership and the Public Health Foundation of India in 2011 found that “in Delhi, no prescription was presented for one-fifth of the antibiotics purchased recently”. The irrational consumption of antibiotics is one factor behind the rising problem of microbial resistance to them.

India and Netherlands sign MoU for development of vaccines, [Express Pharma](#)

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between India and Netherlands for development of vaccines. The MoU signed under 'Make in India' initiative of Government of India will enable the Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Ltd (BIBCOL), a Central PSU under Department of Biotechnology, to develop Measles – Rubella vaccine at its plant at Chola, Bulandshahr, UP Translational Vaccinology (INTRAVACC) a government-based institute of the Netherlands will extend technical support for the development of vaccine. The MoU was signed in the august presence of the Prime Minister of The Netherlands Mark Rutte during his visit to New Delhi. Under the MoU cooperation in development of other vaccines and biologicals with DBT Research Institutes shall be explored.

Similar reports have appeared in:

[India Infoline](#)

Other News on Pharma

Medical devices like stents, implants set to come under price control, [The Times of India](#)

Faced with complaints of overpricing of medical devices like cardiac stents and implants, the government seems to be finally getting its act together. According to a government official, in a string of measures to regulate the industry under the Draft National Medical Device Policy, it has recommended creating an autonomous body — the National Medical Devices Authority (NDMA) —

pricing control for medical devices by including them under the Essential Commodities Act and, most importantly, floating a separate pricing division in the drug pricing regulator, NPPA.

Similar reports have appeared in:

Pharmabiz.com

Seminar on green chemistry emphasises importance of pollution prevention at source, [Express Pharma](#)

A two-day industrial seminar and exhibition on Green Chemistry & Green Engineering for pharma API industry was recently held in Hyderabad. The seminar was organised by Green ChemisTree Foundation (GCF), in collaboration with Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP), Govt of India; Telangana State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB); and Bulk Drugs Manufacturers Association (BDMA). The dignitaries emphasised on the importance of pollution prevention at source and urged the industry audience to go beyond awareness and work towards green chemistry implementation and its integration into current API and intermediate manufacturing practices. The first day of the seminar concluded after a panel discussion on 'Barriers & Potential Strategies to Implement Green Chemistry in Pharma API Industry. Day-two of the seminar saw a session on 'Tools & Strategies' to implement green chemistry and green engineering in the pharma API industry.

Swachh Pharma Swachh Bharat, [Express Pharma](#)

One of Prime Minister Modi's mantras at the 2014 Independence Day Parade was: zero defect, zero effect. He said that India can become a big exporter if it does not compromise on two things: "No defects in manufacturing items and zero effect on our environment." Thus the 'Make in India' and 'Clean India' campaign have put pressure on pharmaceutical companies in India to clean up their act. The pharma sector is one of the most polluting sectors which produces heavy bio-waste. The cost of treating this waste is also expensive and adds to the capital investment in the drug development and manufacturing process. The Indian pharma industry is very fragmented, dominated by MNC pharma, big Indian companies as well as medium to small-sized enterprises. 250 of the largest companies account for 70 per cent of the Indian market. In this competitive market big pharma companies outsource their products to small-to-medium pharma players to cut labour and production costs. Companies in the MSME bracket find it extremely difficult to comply with many of the regulatory requirements as this entails hefty investment.

IPM registers Rs 8047 cr growth in April '15, [Express Pharma](#)

The Indian pharmaceutical market (IPM) clocked Rs 8047 crores in April 2015. It registered a growth of 17.2 per cent in the same month. Amongst the top 10, Cipla grew by 25.1 per cent followed by Macleods at 18.9 per cent and Sun at 18.4 per cent. 26 corporates have crossed the growth of IPM for the month of April 2015 amongst top 50. Amongst the top 50 corporate, Akumentis has the highest growth of 38.2 per cent followed by Allergan at 35.5 per cent and MSD at 34.9 per cent. 41 corporates showed growths of more than 10 per cent amongst the top 50. Amongst the 11-20 ranked corporate, Glenmark has the highest growth of 30.1 per cent followed by Torrent at 28.7 per cent and Aristo at 26.9 per cent. Amongst the 40-50 ranked corporates, Allergan has the highest growth at 35.5 per cent followed by Albert David at 34.2 per cent and Hetero at 27.2 per cent.